



***Innovation:
Forging a Path to Transition***

Day: Thursday, November 19, 2009
Session: 9:15 – 10:30 am
Room: Aztec A

Presenters:

Renee M. Gayden – rgayden@mcrsd.org
Principal – Maricopa County Regional School District

Corrine Frank – corrine.frank@mcrsd.org
Director of Special Services
Maricopa County Regional School District

Nandi Muhammad
B.S. Criminal Justice
Maricopa County Regional School District External Transition Facilitator of MCRSD

Session Description:

The presentation will provide an overview of a new and unique educational program that is being implemented in a secure care facility for the 2009 – 2010 school year.

How the session addresses Innovation:

The Maricopa County Regional School District has instituted a new Transition curriculum for the 2009 – 2010 school year that unites the core curriculum, AZCIS-ECAP, Merging Two Worlds with a prescribed Transitional curriculum and goals into prescribed six week initiatives. The program is innovative in that it requires all stakeholders to re-evaluate the educational mission and vision for our students by participating in a joint collaborative effort. Program goals and steps identified in a strategic and tactical initiative that is aligned with the SY: 2009 – 2010 NCA/CITA School Improvement Plan.

Presenter Information:

Renee M. Gayden is Principal at the Durango and Mesa Transitional Learning Centers, an employee of the MCRSD since 1998. Renee has served as a Technology Instructor, Lead Teacher, District Administrative Assistant and Principal. Renee's educational philosophy is: "All students have the ability to learn and can become contributing and productive members of a global community."

Corrine Frank received her Bachelor's degree in Special Education from Ball State University and Master's Degree in Education from Northern Arizona University.